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Business Real Estate Corporation

February 14, 1951

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OGC HAS REVIEWED.

The disposal of foreign excess property is governed by 41 U.S.C.A. Sections 271-274.

Section 271 provides that "each executive agency having foreign excess property shall be responsible for the disposal thereof. . ."

Section 272 provides for methods and terms of disposal:-

*Foreign excess property may be disposed of (a) by sale, exchange, lease, or transfer, for cash, credit, or other property, with or without warranty, and upon such other terms and conditions as the head of the executive agency concerned deems proper; but in no event shall any property be sold without a condition forbidding its importation into the United States, unless the Secretary of Agriculture (in the case of any agricultural commodity, food, or cotton or woolen goods) or the Secretary of Commerce (in the case of any other property) determines that the importation of such property would relieve domestic shortages or otherwise be beneficial to the economy of this country, or (b) for foreign currencies or credits, or substantial benefits or the discharge of claims resulting from the compromise or settlement of such claims by any executive agency in accordance with the law, whenever the head of the executive agency concerned determines that it is in the interest of the United States to do so. Such property may be disposed of without advertising when the head of the executive agency concerned finds so doing to be most practicable and to be advantageous to the Government. The head of each executive agency responsible for the disposal of foreign excess property may execute such documents for the transfer of title or other interest in property and take such other action as he deems necessary or proper to dispose of such property; and may authorize the abandonment, destruction, or donation of foreign excess property under his control which has no commercial value or the estimated cost of care and handling of which would exceed the estimated proceeds from its sale. June 30, 1949, c. 288, Title IV, Sec. 402, 63 Stat. 398."

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The Regulations set forth the disposal policies of the Government. The price criterion is the fair value of the surplus property at the time of its disposition. There are no provisions requiring the publishing of bids.

Although the Office of the Foreign Liquidation

Commissioner may establish any other order of priorities among
persons other than Government agencies, the Regulations set up
priorities as follows:-

- 1) Government Agencies
- 2) Veterans
- Non-Profit Institutions, for use in foreign areas
- 4) American Manufacturers or Distributors
- for the areas in which the surplus property is located.

A. R. L.

RLD

cross reference; 514 Parperty Legulations